

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

PRESIDENT- LANCE DUNBAR-AL7BK-337-6297
CLUB PHONE:345-0719

AUGUST 1986

WHAT'S GOING ON THESE DAYS!!!

SLIDES ON CHINA BY DAN AL7GH

Aug. 1st . . . General Meeting 7 pm Spenard Rec Center 2020 W. 48th St.
August 6th . . . Board Meeting 7PM Hope Cottage Meeting Rm Bering Street
between Northern Lights and Benson

August 30th . . PARKA Social Meeting to be announced
September 5th . . General Meeting 7 pm Spenard Rec Center 2020 W. 48th St.
September 10th . . Board Meeting 7 pm Hope Cottage Meeting Rm Bering Street
between Northern Lights and Benson

September 13/14 FLEA MARKET Place and Details to be Announced
September 27th . . PARKA Technical Meeting. To be announced

AUG. 1ST October 3rd . . General Meeting 7 pm Spenard Rec Center 2020 W. 48th St.
October 8th . . Board Meeting 7pm Hope Cottage Meeting Rm Bering Street
between Northern Lights and Benson

VEC NEWS - NEW HAMS AND UPGRADES

ANCHORAGE

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------|------------|---------|
| MICHAEL M. BARRETTE | | No License | Novice |
| JOHN D. DESHETLER | KA8ESO | Technician | General |
| JOHN R. GRATRUX | NL7HG | Technician | General |
| MICHAEL R. SITBON | | No License | Novice |

JUNEAU

| | | | |
|-------------|--------|---------|------------|
| DAVID BRUCE | WL7BKA | Novice | Technician |
| JOHN ZANTEK | WB3AIC | General | Advanced |

submitted by Roger Hansen, KL7HFQ, VEC Director)

EDITOR: HARVEY E. ROOKUS - NL7DK 333-4693
3310 CHECKMATE DRIVE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99508

THE PREZ SEZ

The month of July has passed all too quickly for me. What with the reasonable amount of good weather (although, at the time of this writing, its rainy and windy), I haven't been in the mood for much of anything but being outdoors soaking up the sunshine and a reasonable number of "887's."

Field Day the last weekend in June was fairly successful, considering the mediocre propagation and the windy conditions. The 5-wavelength long VEE beam strung up for the primary phone station functioned well, even on 40 and 80 meters, the CW station logged the most contacts and the most points, primarily because of the efforts of the operators, Dan White, WB5DNT, Adam Taylor, NL7CT, Mike McLaughlin, WA7USX, and yours truly (Dan and Adam did most of the work, though. I just filled in for "potty" breaks.). The 40 meter station, manned by John Spencer, KL7GQQ, and John Bierman, KL7GNP, logged 25 contacts on phone and CW, but propagation on the low bands was "tuff." The novice station didn't log any contacts, but that's what happens when conditions are poor and the antenna is a dipole. Maybe next year. Thanks to Rick Marvin, KL7YF, for coordinating setup and teardown, Cathi Moody, KL7NR, for the delicious BBQ brisket, and all the rest (about 75 people showed up during the event) for your interest and help. We think that next year we will use high power (2 kw PEP) on all but the novice station to see what happens. It's hard to work the Lower 48 when all their antennas are oriented East-West. All you guys in the Lower 48, how about giving your fellow Alaska hams a break and turn your antennas to the north or northwest once in a while.

On to other subjects.

The Pittsburgh, Pa., mountain climbing expedition, led by Blake, KA3PLZ, successfully scaled Mt. McKinley on July 9, and logged at least 21 contacts from the top, using a handi-talkie, on 147.98/30. Rosemary, KL7LA, Del, KL7JKW, Gene KL7GID, and others provided communications support for the climbing party during the ascent and descent on 146.52 simplex. Well done, lads and lasses, as they say on the ships at sea.

As of this writing, nothing has been heard from the folks who run the Alaska State Amateur Golf Championship. Efforts are being made to find out what is going on.

I was contacted by one of the organizers of the Bud Light Triathlon to be held at Ft. Rich on Aug. 3 to provide coms support for them. He was supposed to call back after our July general meeting, but never did. So far, only 2 people have signed up to help out. Give me a call if you are available for most of the day on Aug. 3. They still may want us.

Nothing heard from Anchorage Community College about the Arts Fair. I heard a rumor that there wouldn't be one this year, due to a lack of funds, but nothing definite.

Flea Market time is fast approaching, so get out there and find us a good location. There are lots of empty spaces, so it should be a piece of cake this year. A suggestion was made to hold the flea market toward the end of September or the first part of October, after the back-to-school rush, etc. Your comments on this would be appreciated. Also, the local computer users groups might be interested in joining in to help make this a "truly huge" electronics flea market.

Sorry I couldn't make the July general meeting. I would have liked to hear Connie Hilpert expound on whatever he found appropriate.

That's it for this month. Have to get this printed and over to our "ink-smudged" editor so he can get the newsletter off to the printers.

73,

Lance



EDITOR'S NOTES

IF YOU HAVE AN ITEM THAT YOU THINK WOULD BE OF INTEREST TO THE CLUB MEMBERS WRITE IT OUT AND SEND IT TO ME FOR PUBLICATION IN THE NEWSLETTER. THEY SHOULD BE IN MY HANDS FIFTEEN DAYS BEFORE THE CLUB MEETING WHICH IS THE FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH. RUSS SCOTT-KL7EM HAS DONATED A 'CONCORD' MODEL MTC-12 AUTOMATIC TV CAMERA FOR THE ONE SENDING IN THE MOST INTERESTING STORY. IT CAN BE OF A TECHNICAL OR HUMOROUS NATURE, SO SIT DOWN AND START WRITING. IF I HAVE ANY QUESTIONS RE: YOUR STORY I WILL CALL YOU AND IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS GIVE ME A CALL!!

QST DE W1AW
HR ARRL BULLETIN NR 38 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
NEWINGTON CT JUNE 27, 1986
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

AMATEURS CONTACTING OR OTHERWISE DETERMINING THE WHEREABOUTS OF CHARLES J. MCCOOK, KJ4JG, OF MCINTYRE, GEORGIA, ARE URGED TO CONTACT AGENT MICHAEL TWIBELL AT THE FBI OFFICE IN MACON, GEORGIA, 912 752 8264, OR THE WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFFS DEPARTMENT, 912 552 3205 AR

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC
Minutes of general club meeting July 11, 1986
Spenard Recreation Center, 2020 West 48th Ave

The meeting was called to order at 7:25 pm AKDT by President Lance Dunbar AL7BK. Introductions were held; there were 51 people present.

Visitors were KL7IH, KL7JKF (Butte Montana). Herb (AL7G) is leaving for Albuquerque, N.M.

The Field Day report was given by Lance. About 80 Hams showed up for the picnic, approx. 30 of them were full time operators for FD. An unofficial 136 phone contacts and 156 CW contacts were made for 1496 points. Real close to the Juneau club score this year, they had a total of 1563 points. It was pointed out that all they did was operate, no party, no picnic. They never learned how to with all the rain they get down south. 40M seemed to be the action band most of the weekend. Could have made a lot more contacts if the other stations could have heard us as well as we heard them. Talk is that next year the club will run high power. 20M was good for a few enjoyable contacts but it was sparadic at the least. A new antenna was tried, a low flying kite antenna?? The Mayors Marathon was covered by several hams in the club. All of the operators received a T-Shirt and an unexpected BBQ from the sponsor. At least we will have some well dressed hams at the meetings for the next few months. The Walk for Critters was also supported but not with the same enthusiasm as the marathon. It is kinda hard to get ops with little notice. Still looking for help for the Bud Light Triathalon. Will require about five operators with 2-Mtr. Have two now, should have at least four more. This is a short duration event that is fun to watch. Contact the pres. for more info on this. Also need operators to support the Alaska State Golf Championship. Not really sure they will need us or what will be needed but then they waited until the last minute to ask last year. Call the pres. for more info on the AK State Cow Pasture Pool Championship.

KL7EM reported that the Mt Susitna Repeater has been accepted by the state for RACES use. This will be a big load off from Russ as it makes it easier to maintain.

Connie (KL7JKE) told some wild stories of his younger days (A long time ago for some of us), while Lucy gave us a rundown on the aspects of hamming in Montana. Connie also gave us an interesting bit of info on hamming from motorcycles on the ALCAN. The Pres. announced that the Iditarod Trail Membership had been renewed.

The Flea Market is coming up. Looking for 8K-10K Sq Ft of free space in a good traffic area. If you know of any such places call the pres.

The meeting was adjorned at 9:00 pm AKDT by AL7BT.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald J. Werkema WL7ADK
Secretary

This is a first for me since I was suckered, I mean elected into this position so please bear with me on some of my notes.

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting, July 16, 1986
Home of the Pres

PRESENT: President AL7BK; Vice Pres. KL7IBZ; Activities Manager NL7GE; Secretary WL7ADK; Treasurer KL7DU; Trustee KL7ITI; 3 year Board Members; NL7DK; 1 year Board Members; AL7BB, WA7USX, NL7FX, KL7NR, KL7SE; Past Pres. KL7WM and KL7DM. Not present: KL7YF, KL7JIM & KL7HM.

The meeting was called to order at 7:14 pm AKDT by president Lance Dunbar AL7BK. The minutes of the July General Club Meeting were not available for reading (new secretary). The minutes of the June Board of Directors meeting were read out of last months bulletin. Next time I will know what I need ahead of time. This job is new to me so I'll make this first report short & sweet. A little time to work into the job and they might get better.

Treasurer Report was read by KL7DU and the current budget as well as the report was reviewed by the board. It was reported that \$1000 is still in the scholarship fund at UAA that was not awarded. The treasurer will contact UAA personnel and see about getting the funds returned to the club. Jackpot Bingo funds are slim due to the lack of summer activity, nothing for us from May and Jun as they operated at a loss. They expect things to pick up after the summer. Cost the club about \$145 for the Field Day Porta-Potti, one expensive throne for two days.

Activities Manager NL7GE stated that the last general meetings door prizes were good but ended up costing more than he took in for that meeting. July is usually the slowest month so that should pick up soon. Have some ARRL items on order to use as prizes in the future.

A possible date of 13-14 September was set for the Flea Market. It was bought up that this is a bad weekend due to several reasons, Moose Season being one of them. A location was discussed at the mall on Muldoon and DeBarr. WA7USX knows the owners of the mall and will follow up on it to see if they would be interested in having us. Need to replace the Storekeeper for the FM. AL7BB said he would do it. Going to have KL7HFM check and see if the Computer Club would be interested in having their Flea Market with us this year and weather it would be the thing to do. Lance announced that KL7CQ will run the auction again. Will try and get NL7DL to be the Chairperson for the Flea Market. It is to late to plan a raffle for FM so we will hold off until later in the year. KL7WM will provide a monitor for the Tweak-N-Peak Booth. Some of the newer solid state gear may not need as much done to it but I sure have heard some tone pads that need adjusting. Need to talk somebody into running the booth (KL7YF or KL7IKX).

KL7NR had a talk with the Iditarod Trail rep. to try and iron out some of last years problems before they start this year. We need to pool our club resources that are voting members of Iditarod Trail Committee and see if they can help. The thought was bought up of having a rep from the clubs in AK form a group to work on planning the communications for the race. Plan on having KL7GID work on this from our end.

90/30 Amp is repaired and waiting to go back up. Waiting for the return of our great VHF man to do it. Don't want anybody to get their fingers in the pie and mess up something he has working so well. Plaudes to him from all of us.

Doug (KL7IKX) is away in Bristol Bay right now on the job in more ways than one. It was said that the FCC has cited fishermen in Kodiak area for illegal 2 meter operation. Doug is trying to help

them do the same in Bristol Bay.

The meeting was adjorned at 9:22 pm AKDT well after I ran out of recording tape. Be patient with me, I can only get better as the year passes.

Respectfully submitted (for the first time),

Donald J. Werkema WL7ADK
Secretary

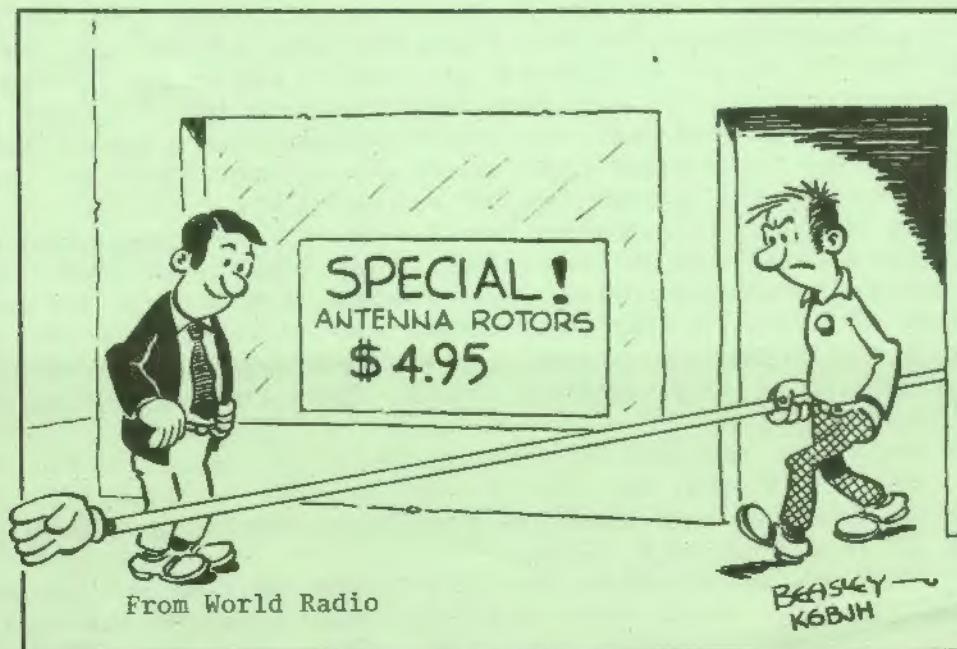
HR PROPAGATION FORECAST BULLETIN NR 27A FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
NEWINGTON CT JULY 7, 1986
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

WE CAN BE SURE OF ONE FACT REGARDING SOLAR ACTIVITY IN THE MONTH AHEAD. IT WILL NOT GO SIGNIFICANTLY LOWER THAN IT DID IN JUNE. THE SOLAR FLUX HIGH FOR THE MONTH WAS ONLY 70 AND THAT WAS FOR ONLY ONE DAY. THE FLUX AVERAGE WAS 67.56, ONLY 0.11 ABOVE THAT FOR THE FIRST MONTH OF SOLAR CYCLE 21, JULY 1976.

THE FLUX BEGAN RISING JULY 2. IT WAS UP TO 72 BY JULY 6, ITS HIGHEST SINCE LATE MAY. HAZY SKIES HAVE PREVENTED ACCURATE EVALUATION OF A SIZABLE NEW SUNSPOT GROUP NOW ABOUT THREE DAYS IN FROM THE EAST LIMB OF THE SUN. IF THIS AREA REMAINS ACTIVE, BY NO MEANS A CERTAINTY, THE FLUX SHOULD RISE TO AT LEAST THE HIGH SEVENTIES BEFORE THE WEEKS END. THE FLUX RISE WILL BRING ON INCREASED GEOMAGNETIC ACTIVITY AND DEGRADED HF PROPAGATION ON HIGH LATITUDE PATHS, PROBABLY BY WEDNESDAY.

SPORADIC E LAYER IONIZATION, NORMALLY AT ITS PEAK IN LATE JUNE AND EARLY JULY, HAS BEEN FAR BELOW AVERAGE RECENTLY. THIS EARLY SUMMER PHENOMENON IS THOUGHT TO BE LITTLE Affected BY CHANGES IN SOLAR ACTIVITY, BUT IT WILL BE OF INTEREST TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS TO E SKIP ON 21, 24, 28 AND 50 MHZ IF THE SOLAR FLUX RISES THIS WEEK, AS EXPECTED.

CHANGES IN SOLAR ACTIVITY ARE NOT EXPECTED TO AFFECT THE ACCURACY OF THE QST PROPAGATION CHARTS APPRECIABLY AT THIS TIME AR





AMATEUR RADIO CLASSES



TECHNICIAN-GENERAL-ADVANCED

The Anchorage Community College, Eagle River Extension, is offering a 3 credit course for obtaining a General or Technician Class Amateur Radio License, and a 1 credit course for learning the International Morse Code. Classes are 15 weeks.

ET 101 FUNDAMENTALS OF HAM RADIO 3 CREDITS

ET 102 INTERNATIONAL MORSE CODE 1 CREDIT

LOCATION: Kiska Hall, Fort Richardson - Room B
ET 101 will meet Thursdays beginning September 11, 1986
from 1830-2130 hrs.
ET 102 will meet Weds. beginning September 10, 1986
1815-1915 hrs.

REGISTRATION:

Registration is now open. PLEASE SIGN UP EARLY. For registration information, please call Sandy at Ft. Richardson, 428-1228. Since the International Morse Code is a requirement for obtaining an Amateur License, it is recommended to sign up for both classes.

The required instructional materials are:

1. Amateur Radio Theory Course, AMECO Publishing Corp.
2. The ARRL Technician/General Class License Manual for the Radio Amateur, ARRL, publisher.

Optional reading material is: The Radio Amateur's Handbook, ARRL, publisher.

For both ET 101 and ET 102, we strongly recommend the following cassette tapes. Each set consists of two tapes, sides 1 & 2 and sides 3 & 4:

Set 1: Codemaster CM-1 Morse Code up to 9 words per min. (wpm)
Set 2: Codemaster CM-1 1/2 Morse Code up to 17 wpm.

The books and code tapes can be purchased at Electronics Supply Center (Radio Shack) in Mountain View, phone 277-2142.

THE MORSE CODE REQUIREMENT IS THE BIGGEST STUMBLING BLOCK FOR MOST ASPIRING HAMS!!

It is therefore suggested that prospective students buy the code tapes NOW and START LEARNING !!

The instructor for these classes will be: WILSE MORGAN KL7CQ - 345-1061



Y L POINT OF VIEW

Looks like we're on the downhill slide already! How does this happen? Well, the Parkas had a great weekend at Lone-KL7PA's cabin near Summit Lake. Had a few mosquitos, and a little rain. That didn't bother us. We set up the Kenwood 430S and checked into the nets. We had two Parkers - Ann AL7DG's husband and Lorrain-AL7HB's husband-Moon-AL7HU, and AL7DG's six children. Other Parkas at KL7PA's cabin were Sharon-KL7VL, Lil-NL7DL, Carol-WL7BIW and her sister and Lynn-KL7IO. I learned something besides hamming that will keep me busy when I get too old to hang antennae-five different kinds of poker. I don't get too much of a chance to check in on the Parka net, but I hear it is doing well on 147.90/147.30 each Thursday evening at 9:00 PM. Please remember to check in, as this will build the net up. We've had some OMs check in also. Keep it up!!

We need a winter activity like the one we just had, with smoke "curling out the chimney", someone keeping the fire going, someone cooking bacon and eggs in the morning, the air is cool and crisp and under the stars you can see forever at night. Sounds good to me!

How are we doing on upgrading? Get your kids interested. Lil-NL7DL is looking for little kids and "big" kids for her Novice class. This was a big month for me, I had my Kenwood 403S installed in my car. With my 2 meter sitting on top, my car is beginning to look like the cockpit of a Mazda GLC.

Winter activities are coming. Let's see if we YLs can get involved as much as possible, either on 2 meters or HF or if you don't have a ticket yet or are a novice, you can still get involved, just ask.

73's

Sharon KL7VL

NOVICE CLASSES NOVICE CLASSES

Call Lil NL7DL 277-6741 for any information pertaining to obtaining a Novice Class license.

HANDIHAMS

HANDIHAMS

Handiham information for the handicapped, both young and old who may be interested in becoming Amateur Radio Operators. Call Sharon KL7VL 271-5766 work 745-4352 home or Lil NL7DL 277-6741.

A L A S K A R E P E A T E R S

| Location | Input | Output | Call | Location | Input | Output | Call |
|---------------|--------|--------|--------------------|----------|--------|--------|------------------------|
| Adak | 146.34 | 146.94 | KH6KI | Sitka | 146.22 | 146.82 | KL7FFR |
| Anchorage | 146.16 | 146.76 | KL7EKB | | 147.90 | 147.30 | KL7BCU |
| | 144.67 | 145.27 | KL7EM | Soldotna | 146.13 | 146.73 | KL7JDR |
| | 146.10 | 146.70 | KL7HD | Valdez | 146.34 | 146.94 | KL7GO |
| | 146.22 | 146.82 | KL7EB | Zarembo | 147.90 | 147.30 | W6SJJ |
| | 146.34 | 146.94 | KL7AA | | | | |
| | 146.37 | 146.97 | KL7CC | | | | |
| | 147.69 | 146.09 | AL7C | | | | |
| | 147.75 | 147.15 | KL7EF | | | | |
| | | | Portable Emergency | | | | |
| | 147.90 | 147.30 | KL7ION | | | | |
| | 222.66 | 224.26 | AL7C | | | | |
| | 223.34 | 224.94 | KL7AA | | | | |
| | 439.25 | 421.25 | KL7HD | | | | |
| | 449.70 | 444.70 | KL7AA | | | | |
| | 449.10 | 444.10 | AL7C | | | | |
| Delta Junc | 146.22 | 146.82 | | | | | FOR SALE FOR SALE |
| Duncan Canal | 147.96 | 147.36 | AL7DS | | | | |
| | 223.94 | 222.34 | W6SJJ | | | | |
| Eagle River | 144.85 | 145.45 | KL7GG | | | | |
| Fairbanks | 146.34 | 146.94 | KL7IRT | | | | |
| | 146.16 | 146.76 | KL7B | | | | |
| | 146.28 | 146.88 | KL7AS | | | | |
| | 449.10 | 444.10 | KL7NO | | | | |
| Glacier Bay | 146.36 | 146.96 | KL7WJ | | | | |
| Haines | 146.34 | 146.94 | KL7CQF | | | | |
| Homer | 146.31 | 146.91 | KL7JL | | | | |
| Hope | 146.19 | 146.79 | AL7EB | | | | |
| Juneau | 146.22 | 146.82 | KI7RH | | | | |
| | 223.94 | 222.34 | KL7AW | | | | |
| Kenai | 146.28 | 146.88 | KL7IEJ | | | | |
| Kodiak | 146.16 | 146.76 | KL7AF | | | | |
| | 146.28 | 146.88 | KL7HIX | | | | |
| Lana Point | 147.90 | 147.30 | KL7TV | | | | |
| Lk Minchumina | 147.96 | 146.01 | KL7IS | | | | |
| Manley | 222.34 | 223.94 | KL7AW | | | | |
| Mat Valley | 146.25 | 146.85 | KL7JFU | | | | |
| Montana Crk | 147.84 | 147.24 | KL7FHF | | | | |
| Nome | 147.69 | 147.09 | AL7CE | | | | |
| North Pole | 146.19 | 146.79 | AL7CE | | | | |
| Palmer | 146.04 | 146.64 | KL7DOB | | | | |
| Petersburg | 146.36 | 146.96 | AL7AQ | | | | |
| Seward | 144.60 | 145.20 | KL7WM | | | | |

Thanks to Mel-KL7GG for the above
Repeater Listings.

FOR SALE FOR SALE

YOUR HF ANTENNA NEEDS THIS
DAIWA AUTOMATIC ANTENNA
TUNER. MODEL CNA-1001
8 BANDS 3.5 TO 28 DIRECT
READING OF FORWARD POWER
AND SWR - LIST \$369
SALE \$275 JERRY GANOPOLE
WL7AME 277-7887

* * * * *

FOR SALE OR TRADE FOR MOBILE
HF ANTENNA. 15 AMP POWER
SUPPLY. 'TRIPLITE'
NOCYK-LORNE 272-5219 WORK

* * * * *

RADIO OPERATORS NEEDED

THE AIR NATIONAL GUARD NEEDS
THREE (3) RADIO OPERATORS FOR
WEEK END DUTY AT KULIS AIR
GUARD BASE IN ANCHORAGE.
FOR ADDITIONAL INFO CALL JIM
LARSEN AL7FS, 345-3190 OR
264-7335 (WORK)

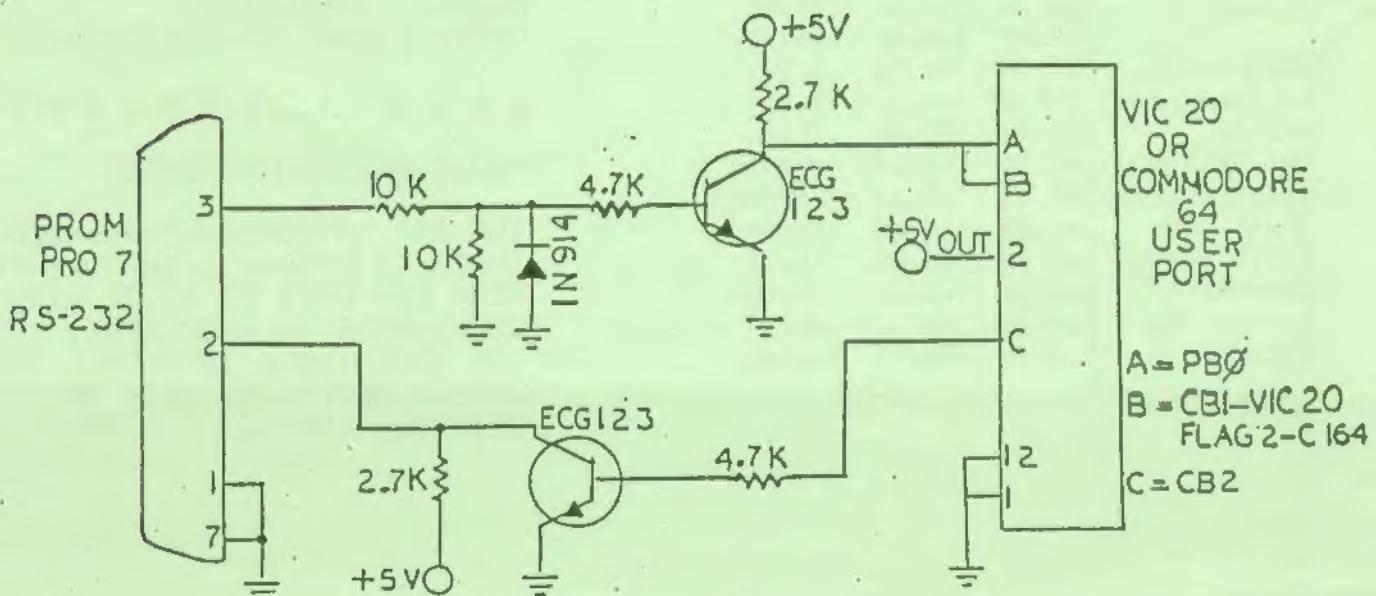
FOR COMPUTER PEOPLE

COMMODORE 64 INSTRUCTIONS

THE FOLLOWING IS A LISTING OF THE MODIFIED SOFTWARE DRIVER FOR THE COMMODORE 64 COMPUTER.

WHEN THE PROGRAM IS RUN, A MENU IS DISPLAYED AND THE OPERATOR IS ASKED TO CHOOSE BETWEEN CLEARING THE C-64 BUFFER, OR ENTERING DATA. IF THE USER WISHES TO CLEAR THE BUFFER, \$00 IS PLACED IN ALL LOCATIONS FROM \$0000 TO \$C400 CREATING A CLEARED BUFFER AREA 1K WIDE. BY CHANGING THE NUMBER 1024 TO ANY OTHER NUMBER UP TO 4069, A LARGER BUFFER AREA MAY BE CLEARED.

IF THE USER WANTS TO ENTER DATA INTO THE BUFFER, THE PROGRAM WILL PRINT A 3-DIGIT HEXADECIMAL ADDRESS (STARTING AT \$000) AND THE USER CAN ENTER A 2-DIGIT HEXADECIMAL VALUE TO BE STORED AT THAT ADDRESS IN PROMPRO MEMORY. THE USER MAY USE THE DELETE KEY TO CORRECT ANY ERRORS AND THE COMPUTER WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY CHARACTERS OTHER THAN THE DIGITS 0 - 9 AND THE LETTERS A - F. THE ENTER KEY MUST BE PRESSED AFTER EACH ENTRY. THIS SCHEME SEEMS TO REDUCE ERRORS TO A MINIMUM. AFTER THE LAST ENTRY, THE USER PURES THE "Q" KEY TO QUIT THE DATA ENTRY PROGRAM. THE PROGRAM AUTOMATICALLY ASSIGNS THE BEGINNING AND END ADDRESSES TO THE UPPER AND LOWER LIMITS.



HamNet Packet Radio Tutorial - Part One

by Scott Loftesness W3VS
CompuServe 76703,407

Now that your SYSOP has begun experimenting in the exciting new world of Packet Radio, I thought it might be interesting to others here on HamNet to begin sharing a bit more of this new technology.

Recently, I've uploaded a couple of news items which have highlighted commercial applications of packet radio techniques: the Genstar system being developed by Gerard O'Neil of Princeton University and the recently announced Motorola Portable Communications Terminal. I believe these to be just the first of many announcements we will see in the coming years as the packet radio form of digital communications finds even more commercial applications.

In the meantime, we amateurs are blazing many new trails in this technology - from the simple TNC idea to the elegant PACSAT orbiting bulletin board system. Most of the success of the amateur radio packet efforts is due to a group of true enthusiasts scattered across the United States. Leading the way were our Canadian friends to the north who developed the original "Terminal Node Controller". Doug Lockhart and his friends in Vancouver developed an 8085-based TNC in the late '70's and its popularity spread quickly as they made available the PC board and parts kits.

Pockets of packet interest rapidly developed in the Washington, DC, Tucson, AZ, and San Francisco Bay Area - to be quickly followed by new groups in St. Louis, New Jersey, and Southern California. The first ARRL Packet Radio Conference was held in October, 1981 in Gaithersburg, Maryland - and provided the first truly international amateur packet get together. Plans were reviewed - and ideas shared. One of the attendees, Den Connors, KD2S, moved off to Tucson to join a rapidly growing group of friends and formed Tucson Amateur Packet Radio. This energetic group began the creation of a completely new, "second generation" TNC - building on the best of the original work done in Vancouver.

While the Tucson group was developing the hardware for a TNC, a group led by Tom Clark, W3IWI, became concerned about the lack of any kind of amateur standard as far as packet radio protocols were concerned. The original Vancouver protocol worked fine for a small group in a single geographic area - but clearly would not support the kind of growth in packet radio enthusiasts that was expected. In addition, the onset of the Phase IIIB amateur satellite and its packet radio repeater possibilities added impetus to the need to develop a new standard.

Meeting in October, 1982, this group developed a new amateur standard called AX.25. The standard was completed just in time - it was incorporated into the original version of the Tucson (TAPR) TNC board in late 1982. Approximately 200 of the TAPR boards have been distributed nationwide - for extensive field testing of the hardware/software combination. This board has become a real hit - it worked beyond anyone's expectations and has created a tremendous additional interest in packet radio. The test phase is nearly complete - and will be followed by availability of a parts kit later this year for general distribution through the amateur community. By this time in 1984, amateur packet activities will have grown dramatically from the several hundred current experimenters to many more amateurs - and with exciting implications for new applications using the new technology. (To be continued) Above courtesy of K1ZAT

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
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Anchorage, Alaska 99510-1987
Address Correction Requested

BULK RATE!
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A NEW LIFE WITH NEO LIFE

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Biodegradable Cleaners • Waterless Cookware
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Air & Water Purification Systems

Wholesale • Retail

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ALASKA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

GERALD AND BETH HEAD
910 MONTAGUE LOOP
EAGLE RIVER, AK. 99577

694-3401



JENNINGS CONSTRUCTION
8035 LLOYD DRIVE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502



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LOCAL REFERENCES - 30 YRS. EXP.
FROM FOUNDATIONS TO FINISH
INCLUDING PLUMBING & ELECTRICAL

REMODELING WELCOME - FREE ESTIMATES